



State Senator

Cathy
Cook



ATTENTION VETERANS: PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST ID THEFT

Dear Veteran,

I would like to join Governor M. Jodi Rell in urging you to take advantage of the state's efforts to help you protect yourself in the aftermath of the recently disclosed theft of personal data from the U.S. Veterans Administration.

For the latest information from the federal government, please call 1-800-FED-INFO (1-800-333-4636). This call center will be staffed from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. (EDT) Monday through Saturday for as long as needed. You can also obtain information from the federal government at www.firstgov.gov or the special section of the state's website – www.ct.gov – that has been designated as an information resource for veterans.

Here in Connecticut, Governor Rell has ordered the creation of a special Identity Theft Information Team composed of staff from several state agencies to conduct identity theft prevention seminars for veterans throughout the state. Members of this Team will be asked to meet with veterans through the VFW, American Legion and other veterans' service organizations.

Veterans may report suspicious activities – or choose to place a free 90-day fraud alert on their credit reports to request contact before permitting anyone to establish credit in their name – by contacting any of the three major credit bureaus: Equifax, 1-800-525-6285, www.equifax.com; Experian, 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742), www.experian.com; TransUnion, 1-800-680-7289, www.transunion.com.

Also, veterans may call the Governor's Office at 1-800-406-1527 to ask for a form to request a credit report.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact my legislative office in Hartford with any concerns or questions you may have. I can be reached at 1-800-842-1421, or via e-mail at Catherine.Cook@cga.ct.gov.

Wishing you and your family the best,